

NSC (A) HOC COMMITTEE ON EXCHANGES

Minutes

21 October 1958

Present:

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[REDACTED] Chairman, CIA
 Mr. Buford, State
 Mr. Stone, Army
 Mr. Ely, Navy
 Col. Goforth, AFMCM
 Col. Brewer, JIG
 Mr. Abrahams, AMC
 Mr. Riehl, ATIC
 Mr. Flynn, USIA
 Mr. Jelich, AFMCM
 Capt. Palmer, JIG
 Mr. Jacocks, ATIC, (Present for discussion on Polymers)

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[REDACTED] Present for discussion on Machine Translation
 [REDACTED] nt for discussion on Plutonium Proposal
 Col. Little, IDC (Present for discussion on Defector Program)

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[REDACTED] Secretary, CIA

INTRODUCTION

1. The minutes of the 16 September meeting were approved with the following change:

a. Paragraph 10, line 4, should read, "...he would not be willing...."

ACTION MATTERS

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1. Machine Translation. Mr. [REDACTED] Acting AD/OCR, was present to explain the status of the art of machine translation and the possibilities and plans for an exchange in that field. He said that it is now feasible to translate by machine from Russian to English at the rate of 36,000 words per hour, with an increase in the foreseeable future to 150,000 words per hour. The Soviets, however, are able to translate fourteen different languages, including some translations not involving Russian. [REDACTED] working with support from the [REDACTED] and 25X1A5a1 CIA, is the leader in this field in the US. [REDACTED] reported that 25X1A9a the DCI has recently approved an exchange of research information on machine translation with the Soviets using the [REDACTED] 25X1A5a1 [REDACTED] as the channel. The exchange would be confined to research information

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25X1A9a in linguistics and would not cover machine design or the ramifications and by-products of machine translation. [REDACTED] said that little Soviet gain was anticipated because they were not able to program for digital computers and did not use them to any extent in their machine translation. The US gain would be primarily in handling non-alphabetical languages. The Soviets have done much in this field with the apparent intent of flooding some of the under-developed areas with Soviet technical literature. The US knowledge of the Soviet program comes from technical literature, interviews with Soviets here, and observation in the USSR. It is planned that exchanges in this field will begin slowly and no delegation exchange is even in the planning stage. [REDACTED] thought it would be desirable that the Committee know of the extent of CIA sponsorship and involvement, but he will give further details if an exchange of delegations is planned. Initially, the Director of the [REDACTED] program will attempt to visit the USSR on a unilateral basis to stimulate an exchange of information. [REDACTED] noted that the US machine translation will be on exhibit at a conference on scientific information in Washington soon. He said that the programs uses the standard IBM and Remington-Ford computers, and that the interest in the US is so great that he is presently trying to get time on the Vanguard machines. He added that if any agencies had further interests there was a representative from each agency in contact with him on a regular basis who will have access to all available information.

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2. IDC Paper on Exchange - Defector Program. Col. Little, Chairman, IDC, was present for the discussion. He lead off by saying that two committees had sort of an interlocking directorate so each could keep posted on developments in the other fields without undue difficulty. Col. Goforth reported that the Air Force was proposing that the IDC develop a target list of Soviets to recommend for defection in foreign countries. It was agreed that there could be no objection to this if it were done in the context of the IDC recommendation. The Committee approved the IDC paper and agreed that the covering memorandum to USIB could contain the following statement:

The USIB Ad Hoc Committee on Exchanges has reviewed the attached report and is in agreement with its effect on the Exchange Program.

There was some discussion about adding a sentence to the covering memorandum to say that the Committee would report to USIB any developments in the Defector Program which seem to be having an adverse effect on the Exchange Program. It was agreed, however, that the Committee would be expected to do this and that it was not necessary to state it at this time. The Chairman expressed the Committee's appreciation for IDC cooperation in this matter.

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3. Plutonium Metallurgy Conference. [REDACTED] OSI, was present 25X1A9a as a JAEC representative for the discussion. [REDACTED] reported that the original invitor, [REDACTED] had been scared off by the Research Division, AEC, but would be encouraged to reactivate his invitation. [REDACTED] reported that it was his understanding that the locale of the conference could not be changed to an open area, and the Committee accepted his recommendation that the State Department be advised that the intelligence interest in this case was sufficient to justify an exception to the closed area restriction. It was agreed that a statement to this effect would be contained in the covering memorandum to the Department. The JAEC paper was adopted by the Committee and will be forwarded to State.

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4. Committee Mission and Functions. The Chairman reported the USIB request that all Committees review their missions and functions with the purpose of either adjusting them or confirming them under the new USIB. [REDACTED] recognized that the present Committee charter consisted of IAC endorsement of a semi-research paper with recommendations and an additional item to cover materiel. The Chairman noted that in addition to straightening out the statement of missions and functions, most Committees were asking NSA and OSD if they wanted to participate. [REDACTED] suggested that the Chairman write a note to the appropriate people in NSA and OSD, offering them the opportunity to participate if they desired. The Committee endorsed this action. The 21 October draft of missions and functions prepared by the Secretary was discussed. Col. Soforth proposed that a paragraph be added to the effect that the Committee would initiate actions to promote intelligence collection under the program. Further suggestions were made and it was agreed that the Secretary would circulate another draft for possible telephone concurrence.

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5. Evaluations. The Chairman noted that the Committee would soon be called on to evaluate the developments in the Exchange Program during the past year and suggested that various agencies might do individual evaluations on exchanges in which they had an interest. He cited the GTR plan evaluation as an excellent example. [REDACTED] suggested that the Secretary might make a specific request on each agency to evaluate the various exchanges. The AEC member suggested that a story might be prepared on each exchange, giving the difficulties and the results as related to the negotiations. The Chairman suggested that if the Secretary knew of any difficulties encountered or special items, he might note them in his request to the various agencies. [REDACTED] asked 25X1A9a that [REDACTED] be instructed to ask each returning source for a specific itinerary and for a statement of the difficulties encountered when attempting to enlarge the itinerary. [REDACTED] added that 25X1A9a during the State Department or CIA briefing, the travelers should be instructed to report this type of information on their return. It was agreed that the Secretary would attempt to develop a procedure for asking various agencies to evaluate exchanges.

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6. Diamond Bit Exchange. The Chairman noted that ORR had been asked to look at this proposal. [REDACTED] reported that this was 25X1A9a not one of the more interesting machine fields and that since there were no known developments, the level of the art in the two countries was believed to be about equal. There is little intelligence interest in the direct subject, but ORR feels that it can be used as an excuse for getting into plants using the machine tools or drills, and these could, in many cases, be of great interest. Col. Goforth agreed with this viewpoint. The Committee concurred and the Secretary will report to the Department of State that there is no objection to an exchange in this field, but that any advantage would come from plants visited which use the drills. The Committee will offer to assist in planning the itinerary.

7. Material Exchanges. (Aerobee Rocket, IGY Proposal, and Telemetry Equipment, respectively) Only ORR had its nominee ready at the meeting. The question was raised about the possibility of using existing committees and it was noted that no existing committee or subcommittee was directly concerned with the subject involved and anyone selected would in turn have to appoint an ad hoc subcommittee. The members agreed to telephone their nominations to the Secretary as soon as possible.

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8. Electrically Exploded Wire Phenomenon Conference. Mr. [REDACTED] reported that this technique was used in many fields so that some clarification of the Conference must be obtained before reasonable deliberations can take place. [REDACTED] noted that the 25X1A9a Air Force had an intense interest in this Conference and stated that OSI would defer to them, but expressed the OSI feeling that the Soviets should not be allowed to come if they did not participate to the extent of giving papers. Col. Goforth agreed to look into the matter to see if a tour was planned in connection with the Conference. He will report back and will attempt to find the extent and scope of the Conference so that a more profitable discussion can take place.

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9. International Symposium on Information and Network Theory. [REDACTED] concurred for OSI to the statement in the Status Report. He noted, however, that both AFIC and Navy had been checked and had agreed with OSI. He stated also that the feeling was not of intense importance but was of some interest. The Committee concurred and the Secretary will report the views contained in the Status Report to the Department of State.

10. Fourth Semi-Annual Report. Copies of the final version were circulated. The Chairman noted that it would probably appear on the

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agenda for the next USIR Meeting. Since the [REDACTED] was in town, it had been omitted from the agenda for the 21 October meeting.

11. Guided Missiles Exchange. The Chairman reported that the ATIC wanted to review the paper since they had requested that the Committee prepare it. The CCC secretariat will attempt to poll the membership by telephone so that the paper can be released at the next USIR meeting. Col. Brewer reported that Mr. Rutledge, OSS, had suggested that an exchange involving IGY Data Centers might have been a better first step than launching sites. Col. Brewer checked into this and found that ATIC had considered it but favored the Launching Site Exchange as an initial item. It was noted that it was impossible to predict what would happen in the negotiations, and any item could become the initial one.

12. Medical Exchange - New Antibiotics. The Committee concurred the opinion as expressed in the Status Report, and the Secretary will notify the Department of State.

13. Symposium on the Physical Chemistry of Process Metallurgy, Pittsburgh, 27-30 April 1959. The Chairman noted that the sponsor, [REDACTED] was frequently used as a consultant by ATIC. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] was a well-regarded metallurgist used by ATIC in the past. He added that [REDACTED] had been involved in a previous metallurgical exchange. It was agreed that an ad hoc subcommittee should review the proposal. Nominations should be telephoned to the Secretary by noon Friday, 24 October.

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14. Visit of the Soviet Research Ship, VITYAS. The Chairman reported that this ship was expected to visit San Francisco during November. The IGY Working Group had reviewed the case earlier and reported no intelligence interest, since they viewed the visit as merely one to take on fuel. The Chairman noted that there are many problems involved since the crew and specialists will now probably come ashore. He added that we might not be able to take up reciprocity because no similar US vessel may be interested in doing so.

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[REDACTED] said that it was rumored that [REDACTED] had invited seventy of the scientists to visit his institute. Mr. [REDACTED] cited the difficulty that similar US scientists had experience in the USIR in connection with the IAGI. They had been prohibited from visiting some institutes, and in others were not shown equipment, but were received in the conference room for discussions. It was agreed that the Department of State should be informed that the Committee views tours in connection with this to be to the net disadvantage of the US unless reciprocity is extracted.

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15. Polymer Exchange Proposal. Col. Goforth brought further information concerning a previous AIEC proposal for an exchange of two specialists in the field of polymers. Mr. Jacocks reported that polymers were substances forming compounds with themselves under heat, light, or pressure. They have a wide range of uses and materials. They are useful for qualities such as resistance to elements, resistance to corrosion, insulation, and many others. The Secretary noted that this was apparently a one for one exchange of researchers for a year's period. Cases of this type were covered under our 30 June memorandum to the Department of State. He added, however, that this was not one of the critical fields which seemed to require specific review. It was agreed that the members would review the paper circulated in connection with the 26 August 1958 Meeting, and will telephone the Secretary by noon Friday, 24 October, if they have any comments. At that time, the Secretary will notify the Department of State of Committee approval.

16. Printing Exchange. [REDACTED] reported a request from EWC/State for Committee review of a proposal for a Printing Exchange. He noted that a similar exchange had been reviewed in 1956. It was noted that there was some interest if this can get into the field of map printing. The Committee will review the proposal when the paper is circulated.

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